

TS # 142087

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8 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT: Net Evaluation Subcommittee Meeting and Request
for Recall of CIA Representative on NESC Staff**

1. This memorandum is primarily for your information, but contains in paragraph 7 a proposal for your action.

2. As you know, General Twining has called a meeting of the Subcommittee for 2:30 p.m., on Thursday, 21 April 1960. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the presentation of the 1959 Net Evaluation and to approve the report.

3. I will deliver a copy of the report to you, with a briefing note, about 15 April. You may desire to have General Cabell, Mr. Amory, and Mr. Kent read the report as well. I have an appointment to discuss the report with you on Tuesday, 19 April. The presentation at the White House is tentatively scheduled for 28 April.

4. Meanwhile, General Hickey on his own initiative has proposed to General Twining a new study to be completed about a year from now. I proposed to the Staff that it recommend

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against further studies. A copy of my memorandum is attached; it contains the same arguments and proposals that I made to you in January. General Hickey, however, felt that it was inappropriate for the Staff to make such a recommendation, and he has therefore directed the Staff to develop assumptions and methodology for a new study.

5. The Staff is decidedly split about the nature of any new studies. I believe, and most of the Staff members agree, that if a new study is undertaken it should be a study of a Soviet pre-emptive attack arising out of a situation of crisis, for example, over Berlin or Formosa. General Hickey, on the other hand, desires a type of study which would maximize damage to the US; this, he believes, would be a situation of complete strategic and tactical surprise.

6. I do not yet know whether General Hickey will present his plans to General Twining before the 21 April meeting or whether General Twining, if he receives them, will present them to the Subcommittee. If he does, you presumably will have an opportunity to discuss the desirability and the nature of any future studies.

7. Mr. Kent is sending you a note about the position as Chief, Estimates Staff, which he would like me to assume if my release from the NESC seems feasible to you. I would like very much to accept this position if you think my withdrawal from the NESC Staff can be arranged without embarrassment or prejudice to the Agency. A draft of memorandum from you to General Hickey is attached for your consideration.



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attachment